

Subject: Dakota County Drug Task Force JPA

Meeting Date: April 24, 2023	
Submitted/Presented by/Department: Brian Sturgeon, Chief of Police	
Action Type	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Consent Item	<input type="checkbox"/> Discussion/Direction
<input type="checkbox"/> Public Hearing	<input type="checkbox"/> Informational Only
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Action/Motion	<input type="checkbox"/> Report
<input type="checkbox"/> Resolution	<input type="checkbox"/> Other:
Action	
Approve and authorize the Mayor and City Clerk to sign the attached Dakota County Drug Task Force JPA.	
Background	
<p>West St. Paul has been a contributing member to the Dakota County Drug Task Force (DCDTF) for over 30 years now. The focus of the DCDTF was and still is the investigation into the illegal distribution of narcotics. However, narcotics and violent crime go hand in hand. The DCDTF has extensive investigative ability not only as it related to illegal narcotics, but violent crimes. As such, numerous drug task forces across the state of Minnesota have started to provide resources to member agencies on the investigation and apprehension of violent offenders.</p> <p>Attached is an updated Joint Powers Agreement that spells out some minor wording changes in the General Purpose statement that now included gang activity, violent crimes, and to provide investigative support as requested.</p> <p>This language also assists the DCDTF in obtaining state and federal grant dollars which is used to fund the activities of this organization.</p> <p>To put this into perspective with a real-world scenario, this JPA will allow this department to request investigative support in the case of a violent crime such as a robbery, aggravated assault or homicide. It gives us an additional 12 or so investigators to help in our investigation. This solidifies the resources the DCDTF can and does provide to the citizens of West St. Paul.</p>	
Attachments	
Joint Powers Agreement	
Previous Relevant Actions	
Council has approved participation in this endeavor for over thirty years.	
Alternatives	

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We can decline to participate and take on drug investigations, case processing, etc. without the support that the DCDTF provides, however it will be very time consuming and our narcotics investigation ability will be dramatically impacted.

Financial	
Budgeted: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No Financial Impact
Fund: Various	
Department:	
Account:	
Amount:	